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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 7, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 2 totaled an estimated 14.2 billion ton-miles, 13.1 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included a one-day coal miners' holiday; the 1983 week also included the Good Friday holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 13 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 195.4 billion ton-miles, 5.8 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 2 totaled 328,816 cars, 15.3 percent below 1982, and 5.3 percent lower than the preceding non-holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 21.0 percent in the East, 11.9 percent in the South and 13.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products increased by 9.8 percent. Eighteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding non-holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 26 totaled 42,988 cars, up 13.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 72,770 trailers and/or containers, 13.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 12 weeks of the year was 497,219 cars, 15.3 percent higher than last year, and 848,259 trailers and/or containers, up 12.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/2/83:

	Loadings in Week ended April 2, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	20,691	D	7,003	25.3	D	2,997	12.7
Other farm products	2,885	D	319	10.1	D	227	7.4
Metallic ores	11,985	D	8,715	42.1	D	5	0.0
Coal	85,960	D	28,425	24.9	D	8,113	8.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,835	D	1,834	19.0	D	440	5.3
Nonmetallic minerals	9,131	D	1,285	12.3	D	1,375	13.1
Grain mill products	10,923	D	1,613	12.9	D	745	6.4
Food and kindred products	11,169	D	2,489	18.2	D	702	5.9
Primary forest products	14,526	D	1,211	7.7	I	280	2.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,021	I	628	9.8	D	542	7.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,668	D	2,060	11.6	I	171	1.1
Chemicals and allied products	22,751	D	1,354	5.6	D	946	4.0
Petroleum products	3,967	D	770	16.3	D	181	4.4
Stone, clay and glass products	9,394	D	1,223	11.5	I	114	1.2
Coke	4,767	D	593	11.1	D	415	8.0
Metals and products	9,038	D	3,000	24.9	D	59	0.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,589	I	1	0.0	D	974	5.9
Waste and scrap materials	7,594	D	1,034	12.0	D	540	6.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,664	D	1,209	12.2	D	89	1.0
All other carloads	49,075	I	5,082	11.6	D	633	1.3
LCL traffic	213	D	1,169	84.6	D	15	6.6
Total Cars Loaded	328,816	D	59,595	15.3	D	18,433	5.3
Corresponding week of 1982	388,411						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (13 weeks)	4,485,183	4,950,818	D 9.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
12 weeks ended March 26	181.2	191.1	D 5.2
Week ended April 2	14.2	16.3	D 13.1
13 weeks cumulative	195.4	207.4	D 5.8

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